GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1433
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2003
GERMAN ASSISTANCE IN IT SECTOR
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Germany has agreed to liberalise access for Indian information technology professionals to that country under a revised visa regime;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which Germany will be able to help the Indian expertise on IT?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): In August 2000, the German Government had introduced the `Green Card` Programme for IT professionals from allcountries. The German Government recently approved the extension of this scheme till December 2004. The number of these work permits / `Green Cards` was formerly limited to 20,000. The expiry of the green card scheme was set for July 31, 2003; this has now been extended until December 31, 2004. Until June 30, 2003 out ofa total of 14,566 green cards granted by Germany. 3741 were given to Indian nationals.

(c): The Indian IT professionals are in bigdemand in the world market especially in European countries due to their quality of services and cheaper cost. The experience of working in Germany will further enrich them professionally.